The Honorable Kymberly Marcos Pine, Chair and Members Committee on Zoning and Housing Honolulu City Council 530 South King Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 2017 JUN - 5 PM 2: 12

Statement of Kenji Takahashi
General Manager, Travel Plaza Transportation, LLC.
Before the
CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU,
CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON ZONING AND HOUSING
Thursday, June 29, 2017

RE: Bills 63 and 64

Relating to Special Improvement Districts and the Establishment of the Waikīkī Transportation Management Association Special Improvement District No. 4

Dear Chair Pine and Members of the Committee.

I am Kenji Takahashi testifying on behalf of the Travel Plaza Transportation, LLC.

I wish to express our strong support of Bills 63 and 64, adding transportation management to Special Improvement Districts (Bill 63) and the establishment of the Waikīkī Transportation Management Association as a Special Improvement District (Bill 64).

As a member of the community that works, plays, and/or lives in Waikīkī, we have become increasingly aware of our transportation trouble spots and issues. Commercial vehicle operations along Kalākaua, Ala Moana Boulevard, Seaside, Koa, and Lewers, among others are increasingly having difficulties in conducting their business. Properly permitted commercial passenger and freight vehicles must routinely park where prohibited to keep Waikīkī functioning.

There are too few designated on-street parking spaces and loading zones. Those that do exist are not adequately managed forcing many crucial commercial operators who need to use curb space to do so while illegally parked. Sometimes even illegal space is too unsafe forcing vehicles to circle the streets. Vehicles searching for a space to park and unload their goods add to the traffic congestion on residential streets exasperating a problem that desperately needs to be better managed.

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We have reached a point where action is needed. The WTMA SID will allow us to solve these problems collectively with residents, business, and government working together. The purpose of the WTMA is to establish those projects, programs, and procedures that will serve Waikīkī with high-quality, multi-modal, transportation facilities and services. Part of the overall program is to develop a permit system in partnership with the residents so they may have an active role in improving transportation to, through and within Waikīkī.

These increasing transportation issues have been noted in City studies. A Transportation Management Association has been recommended for Waikīkī by at least three City studies; the Waikīkī Regional Circulator Study, the Honolulu Urban Core Parking Master Plan, and the Waikīkī Livable Community Project.

I speak in support of both Bills 63 and 64. If you have any questions feel free to contact me at <a href="mailto:ktakahashi@tpthawaii.com">ktakahashi@tpthawaii.com</a> or call 808-534-3329.

Sincerely,

Kenji Takahashi General Manager

Travel Plaza Transportation, LLC.